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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/50/635/Add.2)]

50/184. Right to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration on the Right to Development, 1/ which it proclaimed at its forty-first session,

Recalling its resolutions 45/97 of 14 December 1990, 46/123 of 17 December 1991, 47/123 of 18 December 1992, 48/130 of 20 December 1993 and 49/183 of 23 December 1994 and those of the Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to development, and taking note of Commission resolution 1995/17 of 24 February 1995, 2/

Recalling also the report on the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right, 3/

1/ Resolution 41/128, annex.

2/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3 and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

3/ E/CN.4/1990/9/Rev.1.

Recalling further the principles proclaimed in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of 14 June 1992, 4/

Mindful that the Commission on Human Rights continues to consider this matter, which is directed towards the implementation and further enhancement of the right to development,

Noting the need for coordination and cooperation throughout the United Nations system for a more effective promotion of the right to development,

Recognizing that the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat have important roles to play in the promotion and protection of the right to development,

Reaffirming the need for action at the national and international levels by all States to realize all human rights, and the need for relevant evaluation mechanisms to ensure the promotion, encouragement and reinforcement of the principles contained in the Declaration on the Right to Development,

Welcoming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, 5/ which reaffirms the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of all fundamental human rights and reaffirms that the human person is the central subject of development,

Recalling that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action examined the relationship between democracy, development and human rights, and recognizing the importance of creating a favourable environment in which everyone may enjoy their human rights as set out in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Recalling also that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

Recalling further that, in order to promote development, equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the universality, objectivity, impartiality and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues must be ensured,

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4/ See Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions Adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex I.

5/ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Noting that aspects of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, 6/ the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, adopted by the World Summit on 12 March 1995, 7/ and the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995, 8/ are relevant to the universal realization of the right to development,

Welcoming the convening of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) in 1996, and affirming that this Conference constitutes another important international step towards the realization of the right to development, within the context of promoting and protecting all human rights,

Taking note of the work of the Working Group on the Right to Development during its fourth 9/ and fifth 10/ sessions, held at Geneva from 15 to 26 May 1995 and from 27 September to 6 October 1995,

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General, 11/ prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 49/183,

1. Reaffirms the importance of the right to development for every human person and all peoples in all countries, in particular the developing countries, as an integral part of fundamental human rights;

2. Takes note of the note by the Secretary-General ;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session a report on the implementation of Commission resolution 1995/17;

4. Calls upon the Commission on Human Rights to consider carefully the reports of the Working Group on the Right to Development, to assess whether the Working Group has been able to complete its mandate and to consider thoroughly the necessity to reconvene the Working Group;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to continue coordination of the various activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

6/ Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

7/ A/CONF.166/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

8/ A/CONF.177/20, chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

9/ See E/CN.4/1996/10.

10/ See E/CN.4/1996/24.

11/ A/50/729.

6. Also requests the Secretary-General to ask the Centre for Human Rights of the Secretariat to provide a programmatic follow-up on the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development, as part of the efforts to implement the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

7. Requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within his mandate, to continue to take steps for the promotion and protection of the right to development by, inter alia, working in conjunction with the Centre for Human Rights and drawing on the expertise of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system related to the field of development;

8. Supports the current initiatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within his mandate, to consult with all relevant bodies, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system on how they may promote the right to development;

9. Invites the regional commissions and regional intergovernmental organizations to consider how they may contribute to the realization of the right to development, including through convening meetings of governmental experts and representative non-governmental and grass-roots organizations for the purpose of seeking arrangements or agreements for the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development through international cooperation;

10. Requests the Secretary-General to inform the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-second session and the General Assembly at its fifty-first session of the activities of the organizations, funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system for the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

11. Calls upon the Commission on Human Rights to continue to make proposals to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on the future course of action on the question, in particular on practical measures for the implementation and enhancement of the Declaration on the Right to Development, taking into account the conclusions and recommendations of the Global Consultation on the Realization of the Right to Development as a Human Right and the reports of the Working Group on the Right to Development;

12. Reiterates its commitment to implementing the results of the World Conference on Human Rights, which reaffirm that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing;

13. Calls upon all States to address, within the declarations and programmes of action adopted by the relevant international conferences convened by the United Nations, the elements for the promotion and protection of the principles of the right to development, as set out in the Declaration on the Right to Development;

14. Decides to consider this question at its fifty-first session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

99th plenary meeting
22 December 1995